

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Budget Meeting #1
Minutes of November 29, 2007**

Chairman Adams opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also present were Selectman LeClair, Selectman Johnson, Selectman Morse, Selectman Sanders, Municipal Manager Allard and Finance Manager Baroffio.

Manager Allard gave an overview of the Town General Fund proposed budget stating taxes should be level funded based on our current Grand List. The proposed Town Highway budget is projected with a 3 cent increase on the tax rate, primarily because of the addition on one new employee. That employee will work for the Highway Superintendent but also will have the duty to repair and maintain all municipal property and buildings to the extent they have the skills to do so.

General remarks:

- Selectman Morse: 4-increment tax billing – do we know the affect on cash-flow yet?
 - Manager – not yet
- Selectman Johnson: Repaving – why spend so much money? How can we cut back on programs and reduce taxes?
- Selectman Sanders: We need to reduce taxes.
- Selectman LeClair and Adams: It is hard to reduce taxes.
- Question – re: life of the thermal – unknown as the piece of equipment is too new.
- Discussion about the new employee – put all the cost into Town General Fund.
- Tax Mapping
- Fuel and Oil costs – do we have enough in the budget.
- START/SHARP Program: Board wants the officers to participate in the Randolph area and Washington County only. Additionally, they should be in full uniform while performing their duties.
- Brown Public Library: The Town will cover the cost for the telephone at the Library.
- Brown Public Library Community Room: Should we charge a fee for the use of the room?
- Brown Public Library: question came up about the request from the Library Trustees. The Board would like more information regarding payroll related expenses.
- Selectmen Adams, Sanders and Johnson prefer the Zoning Administrator do more site visits to verify permits.
- Senior Center: Selectman Morse prefers that the monies for this organization go before the voters by Australian ballot.

Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.

Nanci A. Allard

Nanci A. Allard, Acting Clerk